

VIRGINIA HUD LINES

FEBRUARY 2005

E-Briefs from the Richmond Office of the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development

800/842-2610, extension 3745

Bill Miles, Director

www.hud.gov/virginia

RECORD \$21.7 MILLION TO COMBAT HOMELESSNESS IN VIRGINIA

On Tuesday, January 25th, HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson the award of more than \$21.7 million in Continuum of Care and Emergency Shelter Grants to 70 local governments and non-profit organizations in Alexandria, Charlottesville, Danville, Fredericksburg, Harrisonburg, Lynchburg, Newport News, Norfolk, Petersburg, Portsmouth, Richmond, Roanoke, Virginia Beach, the Shenandoah Valley and Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William counties. The record funding, said the Secretary, "will go directly to those on the front lines, who work tirelessly everyday to bring an end to chronic homelessness, and who provide services to the many individuals and families without a home of their own." Continuum of Care grants provide permanent and transitional housing to homeless persons and services including job training, health care, mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment and child care. Emergency Shelter Grants convert buildings into homeless shelters, assist in the operation of local shelters and fund related social service and homeless prevention programs. It is the fourth straight year the Bush Administration has awarded record amounts to combat chronic homelessness.

MILES SELECTED

William P. "Bill" Miles, a 20-year veteran of HUD, has been selected as HUD Richmond's new Field Office Director, effective February 5th. He succeeds Mary Ann Wilson. In addition to serving in HUD Richmond's "front office," Miles has also served in HUD Richmond's single-family, multifamily and public housing program areas. He also serves as Chief of the Pamunkey tribe of Virginia..

FHA COMING TO VIRGINIA'S EASTERN SHORE

Are you a real estate agent on the Eastern Shore interested in learning how the low and easy-to-assemble downpayments of FHA-insured mortgages can make homebuying more affordable for your customers? Then learn the A-B-C's of FHA at HUD Richmond's free "Introduction to FHA" course from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 11th, at the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce in Melfa. The course – taught by Virginia Holman, a 20-year veteran of HUD's single-family programs, is approved for four hours of continuing education credit for real estate agents licensed by the Virginia Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation. To register or for more information, contact leland_jones@hud.gov or call him at 800/842-2610, extension 3743.

BRIEF BRIEFS

January 20th *Federal Register* sets March 21st application deadline for \$947,000 in Public Housing Neighborhood Network grants. . Governor Mark Warner says VHDA can raise \$396.6 million through tax-exempt bonds for affordable housing in 2005. . Appalachian Regional Commission at www.arc.gov sets May 31st application deadline for Asset-Based Development grants of up to \$50,000 each to use cultural, natural, community and structural assets in "creating new enterprises and injecting vitality into Appalachian communities". . More than 200 entries from first ever, international Cradle to Cradle "green" housing design competition go on display through February 13th at Art Museum of Western Virginia in Roanoke. . Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development awards \$350,000 to Assistive Technology Loan Fund to capitalize Accessibility ^& Modification Pilot Program in southwest Virginia. . Suffolk City Council Member Dana Dickens to run Hampton Roads Partnership. . 2005 Virginia Association of REALTORS Legislative Conference starts February 9th at Omni in Richmond. . Richmond Redevelopment & Housing Authority's Shirley Hill-Christian tells January 5th *Richmond Style Weekly* what it's like to be a public housing director. . HUD Mortgagee Letter 2005-03 at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/mltrmenu.cfm> eliminates FHA "upfront mortgage insurance premium refunds except when the borrower refinances to another mortgage to be insured by FHA" for all mortgages endorsed on or after December 8th, 2004. . Water projects, tourism programs, a small business center, downtown revitalization, a farmers' market expansion are among projects recommended by Governor Mark Warner for Appalachian Regional Commission grants in Abingdon, Big Stone Gap, Bristol, Duffield, Hillsville, Lebanon, Saltville, Wytheville and Buchanan, Dickenson and Lee counties. . January 28th *Federal Register* announces USDA Community Food Projects Competitive Grants program providing up to \$125,000 a year to non-profits serving low-income areas. . Norfolk Redevelopment & Housing says the seventeen, 2005 Home-a-Rama builders have "snapped-up" all 50 of the lots for new single-family homes in the Broad Creek HOPE VI revitalization area. . Congressman Goodlatte announces \$4.2 million USDA community facilities loan for new health clinic in Rockbridge. . Register for HUD Richmond's March 15 & March 16th Single Family Housing Development workshop in Richmond with Training & Development Associates, at ahall@tdainc.org or 910-2771275.

GRANTS 'R' US

Bewitched, bewildered or befuddled by Federal grant processes? HUD can help. Attend a free, two-day grantwriting workshop for faith-based and community groups on March 8th and 9th at the Holiday Inn in Culpeper. Learn about the ABC's of applying for HUD and other Federal grants. About the nuts-and-bolts of assembling an application. About HUD funds available for faith-based and community organizations. About how HUD "rates and ranks" applications. About coalitions you'll need to form to win HUD funds and the capacities you'll need to administer them. Interested? Contact Anne Davis at anne_davis@hud.gov or 800/842-2610, ext. 3741. Space is limited, so please contact Anne right away

HUD's SuperNOFA soon will be upon us. Get e-ready by visiting WWW.GRANTS.GOV – TODAY!!!!

FHA HAS GOOD YEAR IN VIRGINIA

2004 was a good year for FHA in Virginia. In the Lynchburg area FHA insured its 10,000th mortgage and surpassed \$700 million in total mortgages insured. Hampton Roads topped \$16 billion in total insured mortgages. The Roanoke area topped \$100 million for the sixth time in the last seven years while Richmond metro surpassed the half-billion dollar mark for the ninth straight year. The Staunton-Waynesboro area broke the \$350 million mark while the Winchester area topped \$450 million mark in total insured mortgages. The Danville area is on pace to insure its 5,000th mortgage in 2005 while the Harrisonburg area insured its 3,000th mortgage. Charlottesville area insured its 9,000th mortgage in 2004. The average value of an FHA mortgage in Virginia in 2004 was \$136,776, up 44 percent from five years earlier.

DON'T FORGET

Register for DHCD's workshop on how-to apply for Federal Home Loan Bank Board Affordable Housing Program Funds on February 8th in Richmond, February 9th in Hampton or February 10th in Roanoke with Ramona.Chapman@dhcd.virginia.gov or 804/371-7167